

PCB EDTB 06-05

ORIGINAL

2006

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to oil and gas drilling; creating s.
3 377.061, F.S.; prohibiting activities associated with the
4 exploration for and production of oil, gas, or other
5 petroleum products in sovereignty submerged lands and
6 waterways; providing an effective date.

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8 WHEREAS, the Legislature declares that the state has a vital
9 interest and responsibility to protect its citizens, coastal
10 areas, natural wildlife, and tourism industry, and

11 WHEREAS, the Legislature further declares that the
12 possibility for spillage of oil or any other pollutant as a
13 result of the activities associated with the exploration and
14 production of oil, gas, or other petroleum products from certain
15 lands and waters surrounding the state constitutes a threat to
16 the health and welfare of the state's citizens, coastal areas,
17 natural wildlife, and tourism industry, and

18 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that despite any safeguards
19 that could be imposed on the activities associated with the
20 exploration and production of oil, gas, or other petroleum
21 products from certain lands and waters surrounding the state,
22 pollution from these activities cannot be eliminated, and

23 WHEREAS, the possibility of an oil spill cannot be
24 eliminated and pollution from an oil spill would be catastrophic
25 to the state's citizens, coastal areas, natural wildlife, and
26 tourism industry, NOW, THEREFORE,

27
28 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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30 Section 1. Section 377.061, Florida Statutes, is created to
31 read:

32 377.061 Prohibition on exploration for and production of
33 oil, gas, or other petroleum products in sovereignty submerged
34 lands and waterways.--All activities associated with the
35 exploration for and production of oil, gas, or other petroleum
36 products in the sovereignty submerged lands and waterways over
37 which the state has jurisdiction or control, now or in the
38 future, are prohibited.

39 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.